



JAY DARDENNE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
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DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM
OFFICE OF STATE PARKS

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PALMETTO ISLAND STATE PARK RESERVATIONS OPEN
OPERATING FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-12

Lt. Governor Jay Dardenne is announcing that Palmetto Island State Park will remain open next fiscal year, thanks to the support of the surrounding community. Campers can begin making reservations immediately for dates after July 1.

"Community Foundation of Acadiana has spearheaded the effort to keep the park open another 12 months through the Palmetto Island State Park Fund," Lt. Governor Dardenne said. "The citizens of Louisiana and Vermilion Parish recognize the many recreational opportunities available at the park and have generously supported that effort."

Palmetto Island State Park opened Oct. 28, 2010, with all cabins and campsites in the park completely booked for the opening weekend, and nearly 300 reservations made within the first 24 hours of the park's availability. Through February 2011, the park has seen more than 30,000 visitors. Reservations for overnight accommodations can be made through the Call Center at 877.226.7652 or online at www.ReserveAmerica.com.

"We are pleased to be able to keep this new recreational facility open and available to the people of Louisiana and to our visitors," Stuart Johnson, assistant secretary for the Office of State Parks, said. "With the anticipated funding levels in the Fiscal Year 2011-12 budget, as well as the support of the people of Abbeville, Vermilion Parish and the entire Acadiana region, we look forward to continue providing outdoor recreation in the area."

Palmetto Island State Park is located off La. Highway 82 in Vermilion Parish, approximately seven miles south of Abbeville. The 1,299-acre site offers a mixture of swamps and the plentiful foliage for which the site is named.

For more information about Palmetto Island State Park, visit www.lastateparks.com, call 877.677.0094 toll free or 337.893.3930 locally. More information on the Palmetto Island State Park Fund and Community Foundation of Acadiana can be found at www.cfacadiana.org/palmetto.

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